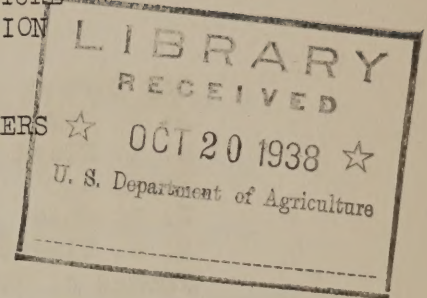


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF VEGETABLE GROWERS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
October 6-7, 1938



Organization

The conference recommends the completion of the organization of a National Vegetable and Potato Committee as outlined in the report of the National Conference of Vegetable and Potato Growers held July 15-17, 1937, at Washington, D. C. This committee is to include at least one representative of each of the principal vegetable and potato producing states. The committee is to function through an Advisory Committee of five members selected by the delegates from five regions. It is recommended that in the formation of this National Committee on vegetables and potatoes the manner of selection of representatives shall be left to the various states, request to be made by the Executive Committee to the various agencies in each state interested in vegetables that they participate in the procedure for selection of a State Representative.

It is further recommended that the present Executive Committee continue its work in representing the industry regarding problems of national concern, including the establishment of an adequate organization for the industry, and to take such other steps as the Executive Committee may deem desirable to further the interests of the industry, including the development of suitable organization procedure, obtaining the assistance of Federal and State Extension Services to this end, and handling matters relating to appropriations granted to agencies which are concerned with the welfare of the industry. This committee is composed of the following members:

Roy Porter, Chairman  
A. W. Day  
E. Y. Floyd  
Frank App  
W. M. Case  
H. G. Clayton  
Thomas A. Robertson

Elba, New York  
Carbondale, Illinois  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
Bridgeton, New Jersey  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
Gainesville, Florida  
Simi, California

Realizing the desirability of some Federal agency assisting the industry, the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas the need is imperative for work in developing leadership and an organization of growers in the vegetable industry; and

"Whereas the Federal Extension Service appears to be in position to render assistance if it has adequate appropriations;

"Be it resolved that this National Committee of Vegetable Growers requests the department to submit to Congress increases in the appropriations of the Extension Service deemed adequate for this additional work, and that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Agriculture and to the Bureau of the Budget."

The conference was informed that the Federal Extension Service would furnish a man for a period of six months to assist in the organization of the vegetable industry in the various states.

#### Conservation

The increasing trend of commercial acreage devoted to vegetables in the United States and the competition between the various areas and types of vegetable growers were discussed at length.

It was believed that in some areas the reduction in the acreage of some crops under the provisions of the agricultural adjustment program had resulted in an increased acreage of commercial vegetable crops, although actual statistics were not available.



The needs for stabilization of commercial vegetable production and for soil conservation were stressed. The possibility of securing stabilization by greater participation in agricultural adjustment programs received a great deal of attention. Many of those present favored a vegetable acreage adjustment program but recognized that under the formula in the act the amount of funds apportioned to vegetables is not sufficient to permit an effective acreage adjustment program.

The recommendations adopted, which appear below, reflect the consensus of the thinking of the group, both with regard to the use of the funds available under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act for approaching the problem of stabilization of the acreage devoted to commercial vegetable crops and the greater conservation of the soil:

"THAT commercial vegetables be designated as a special commodity under the program.

"THAT a national goal for vegetables be established at the usual acreage, which shall be the average of the 1936-1937 acreage.

"THAT approximately two-thirds of the available funds be paid for staying within the goal.

"THAT the remainder of the funds be payable for carrying out practices.

"THAT a penalty of \$25.00 per acre be applied for exceeding the goal.

"THAT allotments shall be determined for each farm normally producing commercial vegetables, excluding farms on which the acreage normally planted to commercial vegetables is determined to be less than 3 acres. No vegetable acreage allotment shall be less than 3 acres.

"THAT all reference to acreage in this report is based on land area.

"THAT adjustments in the crop year be made in accordance with conditions within the respective regions.

"THAT in view of the fact that the vegetable industry represents more than 10 per cent of the cash farm income from all crops, it is the opinion of vegetable growers that the amount of money made available under the conservation program for vegetable growers should exceed one per cent of the total amount available under the program.

"THAT no county having less than 100 acres of commercial vegetables be included in the commercial vegetable area.

"THAT when rates of payment are established that the productivity rating of the counties be considered as a factor in the rate.

"THAT an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Act be prepared, to provide adequate funds for a workable vegetable program and also funds to reestablish the potato rate at the 1938 figure."

The members of the conference were advised that the Agricultural Adjustment Administration would go as far as possible toward incorporation of their recommendations in the 1939 agricultural conservation program.

#### Crop and Market Information

The conference recommends the broadening of the Market News Service to cover a greater number of terminal markets, also shipping point information on vegetables not now included in the reports. In order that areas harvesting their crops during the same season might better adjust their supplies in competitive markets, it further recommends that this service forecast the time of harvest and movement of truck crops but that forecasting should be confined to movement of crops and not of prices therefor.

#### Standardization and Inspection

That part of the Federal Trade Commission's report dealing with



remedial legislation is approved by this conference as follows:

"(1) That the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act be amended authorizing and directing the Secretary of Agriculture to make complete condition inspections for the purpose of determining the extent of damage and insofar as practicable the cause of such damage on all cars of the more perishable commodities arriving in the principal terminal markets, and to make certificates of such inspections available to all interested parties at reasonable fees on a per-car basis without discrimination in rates. It is further recommended that all inspections in terminal markets under this Act be made only by regular, full-time civil-service employees of the Department of Agriculture who receive their entire compensation from the Federal Government.

"(2)

"(a) \*\*\*\* that the Interstate Commerce Commission be authorized and directed to require the Claim Division of the Association of American Railroads to furnish periodically, for the information of all interested persons, data showing (a) the tonnage or number of carloads of each kind of fresh fruits and vegetables and of melons delivered by each railroad to each of the principal terminal markets, and (b) the average amount of claims paid by each of the railroads per carload of each of these perishable commodities delivered in each of such terminal markets.

"(b) That the Interstate Commerce Act be amended to: authorize and direct the Interstate Commerce Commission to prescribe rules and regulations governing the filing, investigation, and payment of all loss and damage claims. Such rules and regulations should provide that carriers, in their determination of the extent of their liability, should base it primarily upon the inspections at destination made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture insofar as loss and damage are due to causes determinable by such inspections.

"(c) The Interstate Commerce Commission be given authority to examine the records and correspondence of shippers, brokers, receivers, auction companies, and other dealers which in any way pertain to shipments and sales involved in such loss and damage claims."

### Trade Practices

"RESOLVED that the Executive Committee give consideration to the development of an agricultural trade practices act designed to protect the interest of vegetable growers, giving attention to various existing types of state and national legislation pertaining to trade practices, marketing agreements and proration programs, and that the results be made available to this committee at its next meeting."

### Canning Crops

"RESOLVED that the Executive Committee take steps to bring together canning crops growers for the development of a national program for such growers."

### Coordination of Work of Agricultural Agencies

"RESOLVED that this committee urgently requests assistance by the United States Department of Agriculture, State Departments of Agriculture and other interested agencies in a coordinated effort directed towards improvement of the marketing situation for vegetable growers."

### Marketing Agreements and Surplus Removal

A report of the marketing agreement programs was given by members of the General Crops Section. It was pointed out that control of marketing under the Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 could be accomplished in two ways, (1) by control of volume and (2) by control of quality. Enforcement of the regulations of marketing agreements and orders has greatly improved. With one exception the Federal Courts have upheld marketing regulations under the various programs. It is essential that Federal agreements be supplemented by State Legislation where a considerable quantity of a crop is marketed within the state where it is produced. California has legislation of this type and the laws of that state are available as a model for



legislation in other areas. While there was some demand within the conference that the Department of Agriculture actively advocate marketing agreement programs where their adoption is being considered, it was pointed out that the success of any program depended upon the support of such a program by growers and that the department would undertake to assist in the development of such a program.

Supplementing the regulations of several marketing agreements, the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation has purchased surplus supplies for diversion from the regular channels of trade by distribution to the various state relief agencies. In the Northeast Section the Corporation has cooperated with organized farm groups in purchases of vegetables. The purchase program in this area was planned and operated in cooperation with the Northeastern Vegetable and Potato Council, an organization with representatives from each of the Northeastern States.

#### Interdepartmental Committee

In May, 1937, an Interdepartmental Vegetable Committee of the Department of Agriculture and the Farm Credit Administration was formed. A progress report from this committee was issued on August 8, 1938. A summary of the reports from the various members of this committee made at the recent conference is in preparation and will be available in a short time.

#### Persons Attending Conference

##### NORTHCENTRAL DIVISION

Frank Plass  
Ward Cady  
Carl E. Schmidt

R.R. 4

Vincennes, Ind.  
Decatur, Mich.  
Osseo, Minn.

|                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Meade C. Pottenger | 510 New P. O. Bldg. | Cincinnati, Ohio   |
| Arthur W. Sachse   | R. 3, Box 915       | Milwaukee, Wis.    |
| E. L. Mitchell     |                     | Rochester, Ind.    |
| Roy Dyns           | 1101 Walnut         | Des Moines, Iowa   |
| Kermit Washburn    |                     | Paw Paw, Michigan  |
| George Jacobsmeyer | R. No. 10           | Ferguson, Missouri |
| Russel Devol       | R. No. 2            | Marietta, Ohio     |

WESTERN DIVISION

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| John R. Norton      | Phoenix, Ariz.       |
| Arthur Apel         | Arvada, Colorado     |
| Tracey R. Welling   | Salt Lake City, Utah |
| Thomas A. Robertson | Simi, California     |
| Truman A. Chase     | Eugene, Oregon       |
| Charles B. Auker    | Walla Walla, Wash.   |
| W. M. Case          | Fort Collins, Col.   |

SOUTHERN DIVISION

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| E. E. Clower      | Crystal Springs, Miss. |
| James D. Ward     | San Benito, Texas      |
| John E. Jenkins   | Yonges Island, S.C.    |
| H. G. Clayton     | Gainesville, Fla.      |
| Ralph B. Chapman  | Sanford, Fla.          |
| J. H. Long        | Carriazo Springs, Tex. |
| Richard D. Massee | Tiger, Georgia         |
| Horace Kennedy    | Summerdale, Ala.       |
| F. Emory Sharp    | Bradenton, Fla.        |
| H. H. Wedgeworth  | Belle Glade, Fla.      |
| W. E. Maxwell     | Monticello, Ark.       |

EAST CENTRAL DIVISION

|                      |                                    |                     |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| R. O. Stelzer        | University of Delaware             | Newark, Delaware    |
| Harley G. Hastings   |                                    | Bethel, Delaware    |
| Clarence Z. Keller   | " " Maryland                       | College Park, Md.   |
| Harry H. Nuttle      |                                    | Denton, Md.         |
| J. Miles Lankford    |                                    | Pocomoke City, Md.  |
| F. Ridgley Todd      |                                    | Sparrows Point, Md. |
| W. H. Daughtrey      | Virginia Polytechnic<br>Institute  | Blacksburg, Va.     |
| Richard T. Etheridge |                                    | Back Bay, Va.       |
| Porter Hardy, Jr.    |                                    | Churchland, Va.     |
| F. W. Colby          | P.O. Box 419<br>2321 West End Ave. | Nashville, Tenn.    |



|              |                       |                   |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Denton Fly   |                       | Milan, Tenn.      |
| H. A. Patten | State College Station | Raleigh, N. C.    |
| J. C. Broome |                       | Aurora, N. C.     |
| E. B. Ward   | R.F.D.                | Wilmington, N. C. |

NORTHEAST REGION

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Franklin W. Wooding | North Haven, Conn.   |
| Alvin S. Crispin    | Woodstown, N. J.     |
| Carl Emerling       | Boston, N. Y.        |
| Graybill G. Minnich | Lititz, Penn.        |
| Jacob Menzi         | Portsmouth, R. I.    |
| Harold F. Thompson  | Seekonk, Mass.       |
| George W. Porter    | Agawam, Mass.        |
| Dr. Frank App       | Bridgeton, N. J.     |
| John Wickham        | Cutchogue, L. I.     |
| Roy Porter          | Elba, New York       |
| Kenneth Roberts     | Bridgeton, N. J.     |
| Jack Thornborrow    | Millville, N. J.     |
| Don Wickham         | Ithaca, N. Y.        |
| Sumner R. Parker    | Amherst, Mass.       |
| W. S. Hagar         | Harrisburg, Penn.    |
| Edward Gauntt       | New Brunswick, N. J. |

